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Passed to [REDACTED]

25X1X7

by DAD/KA

10 July 63

Production of Pipe in Czechoslovakia

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1. The Klement Gottwald Steelworks (NHKG) located at Kuncice nad Ostravici has a spiral welded tube mill of German manufacture which has been in operation since June 1960. This mill was observed by [REDACTED] who reported at that time that the mill was limited to producing welded pipe in a range of 10" to 24" maximum. Pipe of this size is too small for the transcontinental pipeline being constructed by the USSR, but could be substituted for Soviet-produced pipe in that range -- thus freeing USSR equipment for the output of 40" pipe.

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2. Czechoslovakia reportedly has a second spiral-welded tube mill, also believed to be of German manufacture, at the Sverma Iron-works in Podbrezova. The size and annual tonnage this mill is capable of producing, however, is not known.

OHR/CIA

10 July 1963

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